

JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENGLISH
Second Year Second Semester Examinations, 2025
Major: Postcolonial Theory and Literature

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer four questions selecting one question from each group.

CO1: Understand how and why postcolonial studies and the theory of postcolonialism emerged as an aftermath of colonialism. (10)

- 1) "The forgotten archive of the colonial encounter narrates multiple stories of contestation and its discomfiting other, complicity." Analyse.
- 2) Does Said adequately explain the relationship between the 'material' practices of colonialism and its 'representations' in his *Orientalism*? What are the limitations of such a 'colonial discourse analysis'? Answer with reference to the relevant sections of *Orientalism* that you have studied in your syllabus.
- 3) Fanon writes, "To speak a language is to take on a world, a culture." Critically comment.
- 4) How does Dipesh Chakrabarty explain the problem of Indians "representing themselves in history" in his essay "Postcoloniality and the Artifice of History: Who Speaks for "Indian" Pasts?"

CO2: Develop an understanding of the condition of postcoloniality. (10)

- 5) Would you read Okonkwo, Achebe's hero in *Things Fall Apart*, as an "anti-hero"? Justify your answer with reference to the text.
- 6) Write an essay on silence as a mode of resistance with reference to *Foe*.
- 7) In what ways do you think the queer characters in *Funny Boy* are victimised by colonial hangover in Sri Lanka?

CO3: Acquire a comprehensive idea of the writing of postcolonial literatures across the erstwhile colonies in Asia and Africa. (5)

- 8) Comment on Tagore's critique of the modern city as expressed in *Raktakaravi*.
- 9) Discuss the interplay of different performative styles in *Pantomime*.

CO4: Identify the markers of postcoloniality in new texts. (5)

- 10) Discuss the use of Biblical imagery in Walcott's "The Sea is History".
- 11) Critically comment on the encounter between Gideon and the city doctor in Doris Lessing's "No Witchcraft for Sale".
